



The Connecticut General Assembly

Dear Friends:

I would like to thank you for taking the time to review my third annual "Energy and Environment Report." This year, the legislature is considering a number of important issues designed to protect our air quality, open space and natural resources.

Since Connecticut, like much of the country, is still economically struggling, we must employ creative ideas in order to protect our environment. While our financial house is improving, Connecticut is still not out of the woods. A balanced approach is required to make progress in both the lean and rich times.

Your feedback is always welcomed and is very valuable to me. I encourage your phone calls, emails and letters. I thank you for your continued support and the opportunity to serve you in the Connecticut House of Representatives.

Sincerely,

Bob Duff

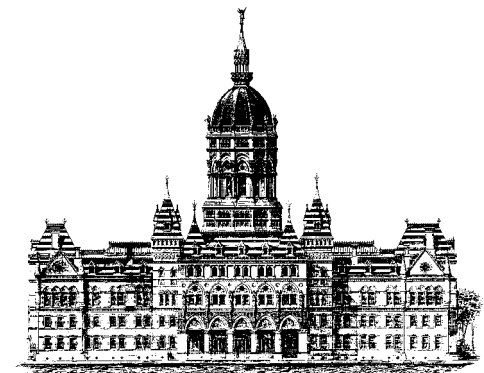
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# State Representative Bob Duff

## Standing Up For Norwalk

## Third Annual Energy and Environment Report



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## Power Lines

Currently, there are two new applications to upgrade the power line infrastructure in Connecticut. Both either begin or end in Norwalk.

The first and largest is a 345kV line from Middletown to Norwalk. Thankfully, the proposal is to run the lines underground along Route 1 to the New Canaan Avenue substation.

Second, is a plan to run a smaller line (115kV) underground from Norwalk to Stamford. The electric company is presenting two options. Their preferred route is “southern” along Route 1 (Connecticut Avenue) and into Darien. I am lobbying for the “northern” option, which is up New Canaan Avenue (Route 123) and into New Canaan. Norwalk has had its share of disruption with the power lines and digging up Connecticut Avenue is not a wise choice.

The Connecticut Siting Council (the body that approves or rejects power applications) will continue to hold meetings in the area. I will stay active in the fight and advocate for our interests. If you have any questions, feel free to contact me.

## Protecting Open Space

Connecticut is known for its natural beauty and idyllic scenery. Keeping that in mind, I am leading the effort with some of my colleagues to protect the unspoiled land around our reservoirs.

In the past few years, multi-national companies have bought the water companies and in turn the reservoirs around the state. In some instances these firms have legally abandoned the reservoirs and then sold off the land for development to the highest bidder. Obviously, this puts a strain on local resources such as schools, roads and traffic—not to mention air pollution.

Years ago, this land was practically given to the water companies in order to keep our drinking water safe. I am working on a bill that will take the incentive to sell the land from the water companies. By halting abandonment and development this legislation ensures that we are planning for our future water supply while protecting open space. I look forward to its successful passage.

## Energy Efficiency Standards

Another bill gaining momentum in the legislature involves updating Connecticut’s energy efficiency standards. This legislation is designed to reduce pollution, decrease costs of commonly used appliances and improve our air quality. As we debate the merits of upgrading the power lines, this new law, if passed, will certainly take some of the pressure off of our increasing energy consumption. According to the testimony at the Energy Committee’s public hearing, our state government could save \$450,000 annually by implementing this concept.

## Improving Air Quality - Clean Cars

Published reports state that 40% of our hazardous air pollutants come from motor vehicle emissions. This, of course, leads to asthma, respiratory problems and other health related complications. I am a co-sponsor of important legislation designed to reduce the harmful toxins that cars emit. This bi-partisan legislation has support from the business and environmental community because it is a sensible and cost-efficient way to lower pollution. Massachusetts, New York, Vermont, Maine and New Jersey have enacted similar legislation, which will vastly improve air quality in the region.

### Contact Me!

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